

Claims 10-13 are before the Examiner. Claims 10-13 have been amended to address points raised in the Final Office Action.

The objections to the specification and figures are noted. The specification has been amended as requested. Conforming drawings will be provided upon an indication of allowable subject matter.

Claim 11 is objected to under 35 USC 112 as containing certain informalities. These have been addressed by amendment.

Claims 10-13 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant deems to be the invention.

The claims have been amended to address the points raised in the Official Action. In addition, as requested, the claims have been reviewed and corrected where deemed necessary. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-13 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT WO 92/08255 in view of Wightman et al. Applicant respectfully traverses.

The PCT WO 92/08255 discloses a distributor housing (the “connecting block” (10) and the loading retainer” (12)) composed of two parts in contrast to the one piece housing as claimed. Further, please note that in the reference contact the parallel top (11) is missing. This shape does not permit insertion into a one-piece housing.

Wightman et al. is directed to a switch socket for incandescent lamps. The parallel contacts are designed to perform functions distinct from those claimed. While the embodiment of parallel contacts is shown in figures 3 and 4 of Wightman et al., there

is no suggestion of a contact location at the parallel contacts which is oblique to the plane of introduction of the device to be inserted.

The teachings of the references, taken alone or in combination, appear to be insufficient to have rendered the invention obvious. Further, it is not clear why one dealing with a connector block and terminal would consider the switch assembly taught by Wightman for incandescent light bulbs. The shared problem is not clear.

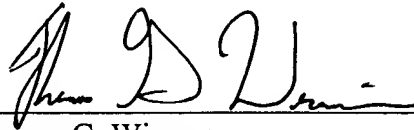
Accordingly, it is believed that a proper prima facie case has not been established due to the insufficiency of the teachings of the references, taken alone or in combination, relative to the invention as claimed and also a clear rationale for the combining these references is not apparent. There is no problem apparent in one reference for which the other reference teaches a solution.

Further, it is submitted that the advantages existing for the claimed device are not recognized by the applied art. Note the attachment.

In light of the above comments and amendments to the claims, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this  
Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas G. Wiseman", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas G. Wiseman  
Registration No. 35,046  
VENABLE  
P.O. Box 34385  
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998  
Telephone 202-962-4800  
Telefax 202-962-8300

C